



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Eastern States

Note from BLM-ES's New Associate State Director

He is a wise man who does not grieve for the things which he has not, but rejoices for those which he has. ~Epictetus



As we face the challenges of life it is easy to focus on the difficulties we encounter and think how life would be so much better if only we had this or if only we had that. When we realize that we are responsible and accountable

for our own thoughts and actions as well as when we exercise the discipline of being responsible for what we choose to focus on, we gain true peace and happiness. I believe this requires rigorous self-discipline and effort. When we allow our minds to wander and focus on what we don't have we start to forget what we do have. This can cause a high level of suffering. Difficulties often help us understand who we are and what we really care about, but we should never lose sight of what we do have.

On my last day at my previous job, I stopped at a red light. I had been sitting there for about a minute when out of nowhere a pickup truck hit me going about 45 miles per hour. At the time I was very upset and I did not know how I would make it out to Virginia to report to Eastern States. I was focused on how at that point in my life my car would be towed away and I would not be able to drive it out to Virginia. My husband in his positive nature said, "don't worry, we will go buy a car tonight". So now I am driving a new car. I do rejoice that I am able to drive this fine new car, but what I rejoice even more about is that my husband was right there to help me through the situation. I am thankful that I was able to report to my new position as the Associate Director of Eastern States. I am particularly thankful to everyone for the warm welcome that I received upon my arrival.

Marie Stewart
BLM-ES Associate State Director



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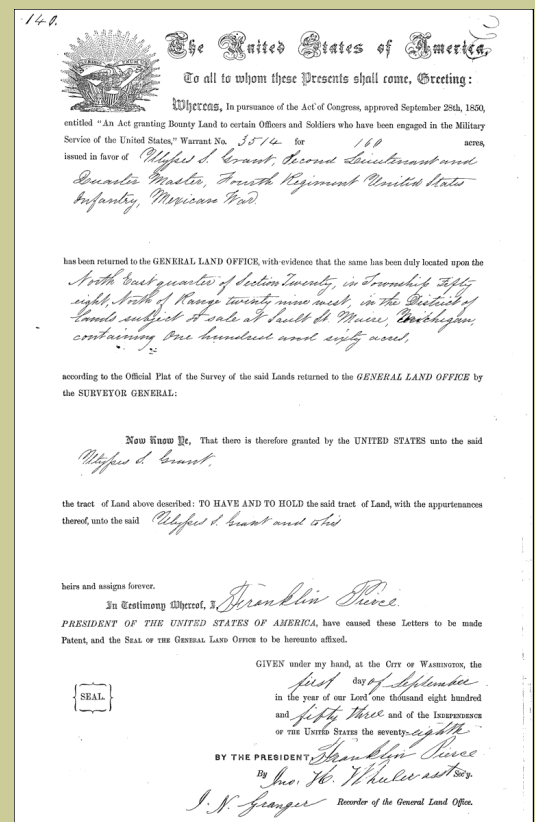
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Mission Alignment, Customer Service, and Business Principles
An Eastern States Tradition

In FY 2010 the BLM-Eastern States will focus on three themes that will guide the implementation and execution of our FY 2010 Program of Work: Mission Alignment, Customer Service, and “Business Principles”.

Mission Alignment – The BLM Eastern States leadership will focus aligning all of our resources to make sure that we deliver our programs and services to the American people in the most efficient and effective manner. Our resources include human, capital, systems, processes, and leadership.

Customer Service – This is not an abstract concept or simply a private sector prerogative. I believe that government has a key role in providing customer service. The BLM-Eastern States has had a tradition of customer service and I want to continue that tradition. The four components of customer service we will focus on in FY 2010 are: Accuracy, Availability, Partnerships, and Advice.

“Business Principles” – Our mission goes beyond a pure financial bottom-line. The delivery of our programs and services provide the American public both tangible and intangible benefits - these benefits are not always quantifiable in financial terms. Following Business Principles is the part of our culture that demands the highest ethical standards in the delivery of our products and services; an organizational desire to demand and expect excellence; a tireless expectation that our products and services are accurate; and ensuring leadership is visible and available to both our external and internal customers.

In order for the BLM Eastern States to implement these three themes in FY2010 I want to make sure that we move authority and decision-making as close as possible to where our employees interface with our customers. While some conformity and standardization of processes and systems will be required, we will place a premium on outcomes. The outcomes are the point – we will judge our success on the results of if are, or are not, achieving our outcomes.

BLM-ES State Director



Meadowood Has Gone to the Birds

Jinx Fox,
Natural Resources Specialist

This fall, the Audubon Society and BLM hosted a dedication ceremony for the Lower Potomac Important Bird Area (IBA). Meadowood Recreation Area was selected to host the ceremony due in part to the relatively recent acquisition of the Meadowood property, which ensured protection of the rich and diverse habitats on the property, and the support of a variety of agency and non-profit professionals.

The joyful dedication ceremony for the Lower Potomac IBA was held on Saturday, November 7, on a sunny mild day at Meadowood Recreation Area. Over 60 bird enthusiasts, land managers, local citizens, and agency staff attended, including members of several Virginia Audubon Chapters and State and Federal agencies (DOI, BLM, NPS, USFWS, VA De-

partment of Game & Inland Fisheries, and VA Department of Conservation and Recreation).



Mark Storzer welcomes crowd.

The dedication activities started off with an early morning bird walk led by members of the local Audubon Society of Northern Virginia. The group of early risers strolled down Meadowood's Wood Thrush Trail through hardwood forests to the ceremony above Hidden Pond.

Hikers, bird watchers and other attendees enjoyed hot cider, apples, and the view overlooking the meadow and pond. Even the birds took note:

a mature bald eagle soared overhead during the festivities.

Mary Elfner, Virginia IBA Coordinator, acted as Master of Ceremonies, while BLM's Mark Storzer, Acting Associate State Director, gave a welcome to Meadowood. Mary and Mark were then followed by six keynote speakers: Greg Butcher, Director of Bird Conservation, National Audubon Society; Bill Falsey, Special Assistant to the Director, DOI, Chris Eberly, Program Coordinator, U.S. Department of Defense - Partners in Flight; Laura

Cohen, Chief of Interpretation, Prince William Forest Park for the National Park Service; David Whitehurst, Director of the Bureau of Wildlife Resources, VA Department of Game and Inland Fisheries; and Jeff Foster, State Park District Manager, VA Department of Conservation and Recreation.

The diversity and stature of the speakers, as well as that of the audience, all illustrate the importance of and public support for conservation of such natural areas in the rapidly urbanizing Washington, D.C. metro area.



Dedication panel poses for a group photo.

Manual of Surveying Instructions Adopted at BLM

Dominica VanKoten,
Cadastral Surveyor Chief

On September 24, 2009, the Department of Interior, of behalf of the BLM Cadastral Survey program, officially adopted the Manual of Surveying Instructions for the Public Lands of the United States, 2009.

A ceremony was held at the Main Interior building hosted by Tim Spisak, BLM Deputy Assistant Director, Minerals and Realty Management, and Ned Farquhar, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Lands and Minerals Management. It included the presentation of the new Manual by Wilma Lewis, Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management and a statement from Don Buhler, Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Washington Office. An open house was also held earlier in the day and was visited by many interested DOI employees.

The purpose and

importance of the information contained in this Manual is best summed up by the Manual itself "This *Manual of Surveying Instructions* represents the latest in a series of official and binding survey instructions dating back to 1804; the most recent prior to this

was conducted. This edition of the Manual governs the conduct of all surveys and resurveys of the official boundaries of all Federal interest lands authorized or approved by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Department of the Interior after its issuance.

end of a very long process to rewrite the Manual and the beginning of a transition for all BLM surveyors to the implementation of its contents. The BLM-ES was represented at the ceremony by Dominica VanKoten, Chief, Branch of Cadastral Survey, John Butterfield, GLO Systems Manager, and Daniel Fleming, Survey Records Technician. Eastern State's employee John Sroufe was delegated to be the Alaska State Office's representative and was also in attendance.



Photo taken at the Main Interior South : Cadastral chiefs and WO Cadastral Staff: John Lee, Wyoming; John Sroufe, Alaska; Flora Bell, WO; Doug Haywood, WO; Dominica VanKoten, Eastern States; Lance Bishop, California; Bob Dahl, WO; Don Buhler, WO; Dave Morlan, Nevada; Mary Hartel, Oregon

edition was issued in 1973... ..This Manual, related Manual supplements, special instructions, and all former editions remain legally relevant because they provide the instructions in force at the time a given survey

The same is true for prior Federal surveys; they are governed by the edition of the Manual in force at the time they were authorized and performed".

The release of the new Manual represents the

Wild Horse Captured in Xenia, Ohio

Randy Anderson,
Supervisory Wild Horse
and Burro Specialist

Although adoptions are the primary focus for the Milwaukee Field Office Wild Horse and Burro staff, compliance inspections and resolution are an important requirement of the job. Sometimes, as in the case of a horse adopted at the Springfield, Ohio adoption event in April 2009, repossessions are the most difficult component of compliance work. Wild Horse and Burro Specialists must often devise solutions for a variety of situations, usually far from the Field Office and

without additional support. So, when the Milwaukee Field Office was notified of a loose, wild horse in Xenia, Ohio plans were set in motion to re-capture the animal and do this as efficiently as possible. The Milwaukee Wild Horse and Burro staff decided to combine this bit of compliance work with the upcoming New Freedom, Pennsylvania adoption to be held on July 10-11, 2009.

On the way to the adoption, Gaby Thompson and Randy Anderson stopped at the facility where the loose horse was located, to discover that not only was the

animal loose, it was in an 80-acre bean field! Although the field was fenced on 3 sides, it was obviously a very large area with one side completely open to points unknown; too much pressure and the horse would escape and be gone for good. With all that room, forage and a pond for water, the horse had no reason to go anywhere near people. It quickly became apparent that two people, with limited equipment were not going to be able to capture this horse any time soon, if at all.

We decided the best way to capture the horse was to return with the entire Milwaukee Field Office Wild Horse and Burro crew and the adoption equipment including trucks, trailers and all the equipment we use to host a temporary site adoption. While on the way home from the Pennsylvania adoption, needless to say, nobody was too thrilled with the prospect of additional work and more time on

the road immediately following a labor-intensive adoption; but everyone understood this

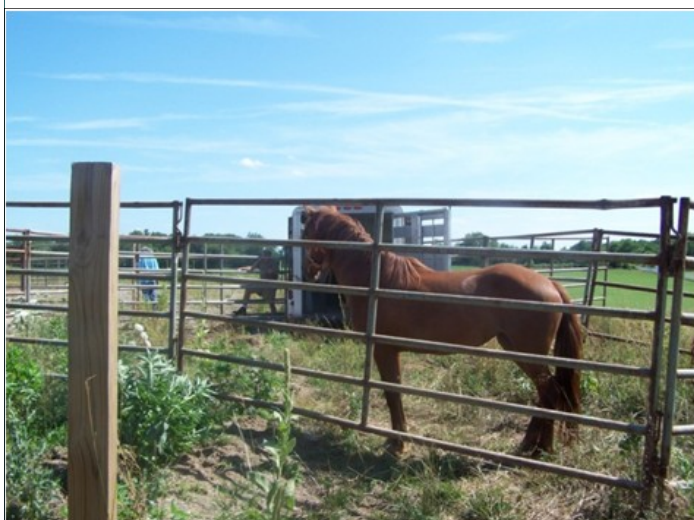


*Adopted mare loose in an
80-acre bean field*

horse had to be captured. On Sunday, the day after the adoption, we arrived in Xenia and assessed the situation. After determining the mare's movement patterns and her preference for an area of the field near some domestic horses, we set up a "U"-shaped pen, with the open side where she had worn a path.

In order for her to get comfortable with the pen, we called it a day and left for the night.

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Captured! Ready for loading and transport back to Milwaukee

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Our expectation was that the mare would get curious and wander into the partially-completed trap without feeling threatened. Sure enough, when we returned to the site the next morning, she was in the trap! We decided to operate vehicles and work around the area to make the mare nervous enough to leave the pen of her own accord, so we could complete the trap, which she did. At that point, we then completed the trap, replete with a “funnel”, gate and a pull rope, water tub, and hay.

The crew fully expected the mare to return to the trap in a day or two. Later that same day, as we were waiting for the mare to repeat her curious behavior and re-enter the now-completed trap, Dave Berg, Program Specialist, excitedly whispered, “she’s in the trap!” We crept around the building that hid us from view of the pen and discovered that the mare was indeed, in the trap. A quick pull on the rope and the gate closed behind her...she was caught! Once the mare was captured, she began to frantically run from one side of the

pen to the other, acting as if she was going to try to jump out, but fortunately, thought better of it. We then proceeded to gradually reduce the size of our huge trap, to where the horse no longer had any place to go. A trailer was backed up to the pen and the mare was loaded. Other than the physical labor involved, it was almost “too” easy! Then, for the fourth time in as many days, the work of tearing down the trap and loading up all of the equipment began. Somehow, it all seemed worth while, especially

with a healthy horse in the trailer. The recapture of this wild horse was truly a team effort, as Gaby Thompson, Steve Meyer, Dave Berg and Randy Anderson all contributed ideas and hard work to the successful resolution of this “curious” situation.

For more information on adopted wild horses which escape, please visit our website at:

www.blm.gov/adoptahorse

Milwaukee Field Office Undertakes Scanning Project

Paula Langley,
Land Records Specialist

The Milwaukee Field Office (MFO) has undertaken the scanning of historic and original title documents contained in numerous acquired land case files that are locally maintained. Project goals are to preserve this set of vital records, which are the agency’s best evidence of Federal mineral ownership (FMO) under split estate lands in the eastern U.S. Scanning of the images will not only

facilitate safeguarding the original documents but will also provide for unprecedented access to the information by all employees within the Eastern States, as well as the public. This effort will directly support leasing, rent/royalty returns, mineral disposal, planning, operational efficiency, and various units of accomplishment.

The MFO continues to develop its Access Database for the management of the index, image, and inventory information.

As the data base expands and evolves, it continues to improve business processes throughout the Eastern States by enabling users to automatically review and query electronic records. The MFO constantly strives to improve service to both internal and exter-

transparency. To date, the Acquired Land Files Scanning Project has processed 19 boxes of archival land records which equates to 29,000 electronic images that are now catalogued in the database.



Denise Wadzinski compares original document files to quality control scanned images received from the contractor .

BLM-ES Helps Kids Catch a Special Thrill

Holly Fowler, Public Affairs
& Pam Mozina, State
Records Administrator

The BLM-ES partnered with many organizations such as; U.S. Customs & Border Patrol, Virginia Dept. of Game & Inland Fisheries, and the Prince William County Police on September 19, 2009 for the *Catch a Special Thrill* (CAST) event to introduce local kids to the joys of fishing.

The CAST for Kids event

not otherwise get to experience. Children's groups from the local area are hosted at a local site and supplied with fishing rods & reels, a t-shirt, hat, and tackle box, and are partnered with a volunteer who is an experienced angler (guide), and escorted on a motorized boat, under the supervision of their caretaker, they are shown the proper techniques of fishing as well as educated on local natural

resources. They return from their morning fishing excursion to lunch and an awards ceremony.

There were over 76 volunteers and 26 children who participated in this event, including Jennifer Spencer, Kim Malicki, Joise Gyurik, Robert Evans, and Pam Mozina from the BLM-ES state office.

The Goals of the C.A.S.T. event are to:

- ◆ Increase the awareness of all participants,



A CAST participant stops to pose with Smokey Bear, who was one of the highlights of the event.

parents, sportsmen, and volunteers to the capabilities of children with disabilities thereby strengthening local communities.

- ◆ Encourage continued participation in fishing by developing

skills in the kids along with their parents.

- ◆ Provide education and understanding to children about fish as a natural resource.



Two CAST children inspect their catch of the day.

was designed to create an environment where children ages 6-18, and adults could both benefit sharing a day of fun on the water that they may



All CAST participants received awards for their hard work at the end of the day.

Public Land Retracement Seminar Exemplifies Guardians of the Past and Stewards of the Future

By Cathy Rodine
(BLM-ES Volunteer)

BLM Eastern States (BLM-ES), in conjunction with the Alabama Society of Professional Surveyors (ASPLS), held their annual retracement seminar for Troy University Surveying and Geomatics Sciences students and professional surveyors, May 10- May 15, 2009, atop Cheaha Mountain in the Talladega National Forest, Alabama. BLM-ES Cadastral Surveyor, Corky Rodine and retired BLM-ES Chief Cadastral Surveyor, Jerry Wahl provided the training for a class of 19 Troy students and 20 professional surveyors. Rodine and his mentor, retired

ES Chief Cadastral Surveyor Lane Bouman, have collaborated on the instruction of retracement seminars since 1981. Wahl has been a co-instructor for more than 10 years. Bouman was a special guest at this year's seminar.

The association with the ASPLS has been ongoing for 19 years. ASPLS Executive Director Ann Galloway freely admits that when she took the job, she had no idea about the importance of the history of surveying in America. After her first seminar with the Bouman/Rodine Team, Galloway became a believer! "The critical knowledge presented

literally puts into practice BLM's motto 'Guardians of the Past and Stewards of the Future,' said Galloway. She added to say, "It is very important

that surveyors learn the historical and legal aspects of public land surveying, especially considering that Alabama is a public land state. Our Alabama

surveyors typically work on private lands, which at one time were public lands surveyed by the General Land Office (GLO). Surveyors today not only need to know their survey history and have excellent technical skills, but they also must have a talent for determining what occurred on the ground possibly 200 plus years ago."

The "Retracing Public Land Surveys" seminar communicates to students and novice or seasoned surveyors the methods used by the original GLO surveyors, the laws that governed their work, and the procedures employed today to find and perpetuate the boundaries those



Retired BLM Surveyors Jerry Wahl, and Lane Bouman, and Florida Surveyor Chappy Young examine a solar transit.

early surveyors laid. The first 2 days of the seminar was dedicated solely to the Troy University students, who must complete the seminar to satisfy requirements for a degree in Surveying and Geomatics Sciences. Rodine introduced the students to the origins of the public land survey and discussed the Federal Laws that governed how surveys were to be done and covered administrative aspects as well. He described the composition of a typical GLO crew and the equipment they might have used.

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Jerry Wahl demonstrates the antique solar compass.

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Wahl brought the past into the present with his discussions. He covered the geodetic aspects of the Public Land Survey System and related technology to its proper use in restoring the measurements of the past. He appeared equally at home with a modern computer and an antique solar compass as he proficiently ran through software enhancements and computational applications and demonstrated the lost art of using a vintage solar compass. The professional surveyors arrived for the remaining 3 days of the seminar and the highlight segment of the seminar known as the “show-me corner.” Rodine and Wahl began the session with a quick recap of the previous days’ instructions and prepared the class for the upcoming demonstration. On the afternoon of day four, the entire class piled into vehicles and traveled to the “show me corner.” Rodine demonstrated how to probe the ground

where a suspected bearing tree had once stood in order to prove it existed in the 1830’s. Spies showed how to uncover supporting evidence



BLM-ES Cadastral Surveyor, Corky Rodine discusses a team’s findings during the final field exercise.

by simply brushing away the fresher soils at the tree’s site and carefully scraping away the ground inch by inch until the soils showed discoloration.

While trying to physically identify the bearing trees referred to in the field notes, a survey relic was discovered. Only a stump remained of a pine bearing tree noted in Walsh’s 1941 field notes. The crew deftly removed a section of the stump’s rotting bark and overgrowth exposing a portion of scribing done by the Walsh crew.

Quite a find! With the “show-me corner” experience fresh in their minds, the class’ last exercise was to find and prove section corners that had been predetermined by Rodine during his pre-seminar prep. Divided into four teams, each group was provided with relevant documents and appropriate equipment to accomplish their tasks. After assembling for lunch in the field, instructors and students

revisited each corner to hear that team’s presentation.

Eastern State’s “Retracing Public Land Surveys” seminar conveys much information not accessible from university textbooks.

Data was gleaned from historical source documents, law suits and decisions, and GLO/BLM survey manuals, and, of course, from experience. Together Rodine and Wahl have more than 60 years public land surveying experience. They have a passion for the profession, and genuinely believe in safeguarding the past for the benefit of the future.



Lane Bouman, Corky Rodine, and Greg Spies tell students what to look for when resurveying a GLO section.

Cadastral Agreement signed with Mississippi Band of Choctaw Tribe, BIA, and BLM

Dominica VanKoten,
Chief Cadastral Surveyor

On September 9, 2009 an agreement with the Mississippi Band of the Choctaw Tribe, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), and the BLM was signed to locate three BLM employees within the Choctaw Agency in Philadelphia, MS. The agreement has a two part focus: The BLM cadastral surveyors will re-survey the Choctaw Reservation trust lands within 12 counties in Mississippi and one county in Tennessee

through reimbursable funding. This work is projected to last for ten years. Secondly, they will train Choctaw Tribal members on cadastral

survey work.

Our Cadastral Survey Program is one of the eight major programs managed by the Eastern States BLM office. The Eastern States

office is responsible for program management in the 31 States east of and bordering on the Mississippi River. We provide on the ground field survey services to other Federal agencies such as the BIA, the National Park Service (NPS), the US Forest Service (USFS) and the Corps of Engineers (COE), and to our own BLM managers, all with reimbursable funds. The majority of our current field work is being performed for the BIA.



Left to Right: Beasley Denson, Miko for the Choctaw Tribe; Juan Palma, BLM-ES State Director; and Robert Impson, BIA Eastern Region Deputy Regional Director.

Petrohawk Properties, High Bidder at BLM-ES Oil and Gas Lease Sale

Davida Carnahan,
Public Affairs

The Bureau of Land Management held its quarterly oil and gas lease sale December 3, 2009 at the BLM Eastern States Office (BLM-ES). The BLM-ES offered 65 parcels in

Arkansas and Louisiana. Ten parcels were sold in Johnson County, Arkansas; five parcels were sold in Louisiana in Caddo, DeSoto, Red River, and Bienville Parishes. The 15 combined parcels were sold for \$4,345,506.50. The highest per-acre bid of the auction was

Petrohawk Properties, LP of Tulsa, OK at \$25,000.00 per acre for 40 acres in Bienville Parish, Louisiana. Leases are awarded for a term of ten years and as long thereafter as there is production of oil and gas in paying quantities. The Federal government receives a royalty of 12 1/2 percent of the value of production.

Each State government receives a 25 percent minimum share of the bonus bid and the royalty revenue from each lease issued in that State.

BLM and Fairfax County Wildlife Management Activities at Meadowood Recreation Area

Jinx Fox, Natural Resource Specialist

Fairfax County, Virginia, is located within the Washington, D.C. metro area just south of Washington, D.C. The County is characterized by an ever increasing human population and urban development. In addition to large suburban and urban areas, Fairfax County contains an impressive amount of protected or undeveloped park and private land, as well as rural enclaves. These natural areas provide critical habitat to a wide variety of wildlife, from resident and migratory birds to deer, beaver, raccoons, and foxes. BLM's Meadowood Recreation Area, located at the southern end of Fairfax County on the Mason Neck Peninsula, is one such area. While some resident wildlife populations have decreased due to loss of habitat, Fairfax County, like many Virginia

counties, contains a very large deer population. Large deer populations in Fairfax and other Virginia counties cause public safety problems as well as impacts to the environment. During 2007-2008, the Commonwealth of Virginia had the eighth largest total number of deer-vehicle collisions in the United States. Currently, 4,000 to 5,000 deer-vehicle collisions occur in Fairfax County alone each year. These collisions result in property damage to vehicles as well as potential injury or death to the vehicle occupants and the deer. The large resident deer population is also associated with increased health problems related to ticks and the spread of Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain Spotted Tick Fever, both of which may be spread by deer-borne ticks.

In addition to public safety concerns, large populations of deer cause adverse impacts to

the environment resulting in reduced biodiversity. Deer browse on twigs and leaves and remove the forest understory and have a devastating effect on plants and the wildlife dependent upon that portion of the ecosystem.



Hunters prepare for deer management hunt

tem. As deer compete for limited resources (i.e., twigs and leaves), they cause changes to the structure of the forest itself, and reduce nesting sites and food sources for lower ground nesting animals, amphibians, and birds.

Changes to the forest are caused by heavy selective deer browsing on seedling and young trees. For example, deer prefer oak seedlings to beech seedlings, which can change a forest's regeneration, and result in more dominant beech populations. Meadowood itself has a dominant beech presence in portions of its forests, due in large part to the resident deer population.

On December 3, 2009 the Lower Potomac Field Station (LPFS) partnered with the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) to conduct a managed deer hunt at Meadowood Recreation Area. The managed hunt was the culmination of several years of planning and was a coordinated effort with several Federal, State, and regional management partners,

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including Fairfax County, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) Mason Neck State Park, and the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority.

The hunt, part of the County's overall deer management activities for the Mason Neck Peninsula, was conducted due to the very large deer population at Meadowood as well as throughout Fairfax County.

The FCPD handles all animal control and wildlife management issues for the County. FCPD wildlife biologists, animal control officers, and police officers worked with BLM and its partners to plan and run the wildlife management hunt at Meadowood. County Health Department staff removed ticks from most of the deer for data analysis and biologists collected data from each deer.

FCPD used their standard lottery system to

select qualified hunters for the Meadowood managed hunt. The County set up approximately 35



County Health Department staff removed ticks from most of the deer for data analysis.

stand locations in the east section of Meadowood. Approximately 25 of those locations were filled by public hunters who were drawn from the County's lottery. Volunteer hunters also acted as drivers to move deer towards deer stand locations. During the one-day hunt, thirty-eight deer were taken. Of the deer killed, approximately 10-15 were taken home by hunters and the remaining deer were donated to Hunters for the Hungry.

Deer ranged in age from less than a year to 5+ years and their weights ranged from under 30

lbs to over 100 lbs.

Weights were low for the ages, and antler formation was stunted in some

cases. Bone marrow was checked on three deer; the marrow ranged between 4-5 in rating. Numbers in this range indicate animals are not able to store sufficient fat to get through a tough winter. These findings indicate that the forage at Meadowood is not sufficient to sustain the large number of deer in a healthy condition and reflects the impact that the large deer population has on the environment as well as on overall deer health.

The following day, December 4, BLM and the State Department of Game and Inland Fisheries conducted a limited

public hunt in the west section of the Meadowood Recreation Area. Ten hunters were selected by lottery and hunting was by tree stand only. Five deer were taken during the second hunt, reflecting the reduced intensity of the hunt, a lower deer population, and deer scarcity due to the previous day's activities. One of the deer taken during the December 4 hunt was donated by the hunter to be used in the Colonial-era Plantation Christmas celebration at nearby Gunston Hall, historic home of George Mason IV (1725 – 1792), senior statesman and author of the Virginia Declaration of Rights. BLM's 2009 deer management activities at Meadowood complement Fairfax County's deer management strategy. The Meadowood hunts and the hunts at nearby Mason Neck State Park and Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge will reduce adverse deer safety and environmental impacts and, ultimately improve the health of the resident deer population on the Mason Neck Peninsula.

BLM Preserves Native American Traditional Practices through Partnerships

Carol Grundman, Realty Specialist

On September 17, 2009, members of the Lac du Flambeau Band, the Kaleb J. Case family, and the Bureau of Land Management, Milwaukee Field Office, gathered together to witness and sign a Memorandum of Understanding that protects and preserves a 56 acre Traditional Cultural Property (TCP) used historically for wild rice gathering by the Lac du Flambeau Band in northern Wisconsin.

Although the event marked the celebration of a groundbreaking partnership that will endure for future generations, work on the

Memorandum of Understanding was years in the making. It began with the Milwaukee Field Office reaching out to the Lac du Flambeau Band to discuss the management of lands near their reservation. The Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation is located on 144 square miles in

north central Wisconsin. Through consultation with the Band, a strong historical connection to the land was recognized. Additional surveys further supported its significance by identifying very early uses of the Big Lake - Rice Creek property dating back over 2,000 years. The Case

family also has a significant connection to the land, having cared for the surrounding lands and worked with neighboring Objibwe families for almost half a century. Through their connection to the land, the Case family has developed an abiding respect for the cultural significance of the property to the Indian community. Carl Edwards, Tribal President, called the event “historic”, a moment when the tribe, government and private landowners showed they could cooperate to preserve the integrity of land important to them all.”

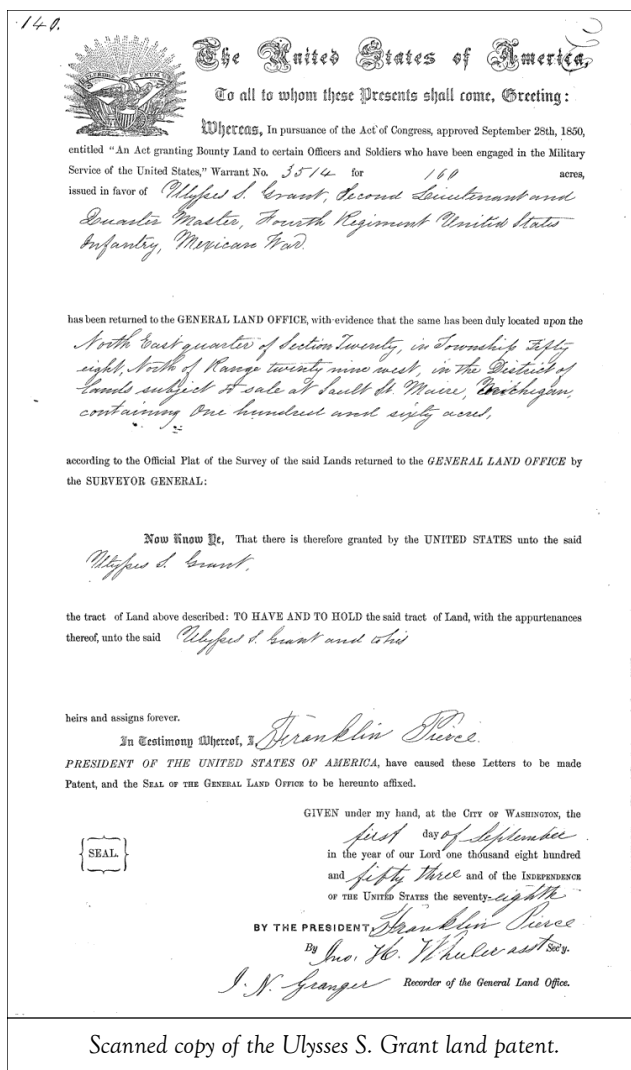


Mark Storzer anticipates signing the MOU for the Cooperative Stewardship and Preservation of Heritage Resources Agreement for BLM's Big Lake and Rice Creek tract with the Lac Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa in Vilas County, Wisconsin.

Ulysses S. Grant Land Patent May Have Been Discovered at BLM-ES

Larry Cave,
Quality Assurance

With over five million land patent records in the vaults at Eastern States, you never know what you may find! That happened in early December as the Branch of the General Land Office (GLO) Records Automation was processing a volume of military bounty land warrants to upload onto the GLO website (<http://www.gloreCORDS.blm.gov>). These were warrants given to members of the military entitling them to a certain number of acres of public land upon presentation to a local land office out on the frontier, and were issued to soldiers, sailors, other military personnel when they separated from the various branches of the military prior to the Civil War.



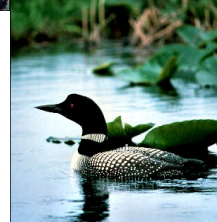
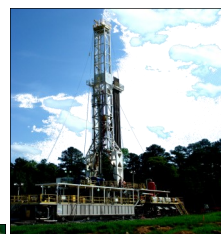
Scanned copy of the Ulysses S. Grant land patent.

Quality Assurance Specialist Larry Cave recognized the name of Ulysses S. Grant on a particular record, as the document showed he

had served as an Army lieutenant during the Mexican War in the 1840's. A quick search on the Internet by Acting Supervisor Robert

Patterson confirmed their suspicions that this was indeed the future President. Lt. Grant received 160 acres from the GLO in 1854 located in Keeweenaw County, MI near the town of Copper Harbor on the Upper Peninsula.

Plans are to frame a parchment copy of this land patent and place it in the GLO office in Springfield, alongside one issued in 1860 to President Abraham Lincoln for his service as a captain in the Illinois militia.



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BLM-ES

Lower Potomac Field
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